

Montana Big Sky Pathways (Programs of Study)

Agreement Valid for 2012-2013 Academic Year

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV) calls for states to offer "career and technical programs of study," known as **Big Sky Pathways** in Montana, as an option to students and their parents when planning for and completing future coursework. These programs, at a minimum, must:

- Incorporate and align secondary and postsecondary education elements,
- Include academic and CTE content in a coordinated, non-duplicative progression of courses,
- Offer the opportunity, where appropriate, for secondary students to acquire postsecondary credits, and
- Lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate or baccalaureate degree.

By my signature on this form, I verify each of the eight (8) requirements listed below are demonstrated within the Big Sky Pathways Proposal and Gap Analysis. For approval, all eight (8) requirements must be checked.

Name of Big Sky Pathway (Cluster Level):					
Name of High School:					
Names of High School Lead Teacher & Counselor:					
<i>The Lead High School Teacher will be contacted if OPI has questions about this request.</i> Lead Teacher's email address: _____ Lead Teacher's phone number: _____					
Name of College:					
Name of College Program:					
Name of College Lead Faculty Member:					
REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL		(IP = In Progress)	YES	IP	NO
1.	Includes all state and local graduation requirements preparing students for entry into a postsecondary program or apprenticeship.				
2.	Identifies the appropriate secondary CTE, academic, and recommended elective courses offered by this high school which will prepare the student for college-level courses without remediation.				
3.	Outlines a non-duplicative sequence of courses from grades 9-12 and from secondary to postsecondary education.				
4.	Leads to an industry-recognized postsecondary credential, degree or employment				
5.	Completed "Gap Analysis" with a program offered by a Montana postsecondary institution.				
6.	When applicable, dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate courses and CTE START (Statewide Articulations) opportunities have been identified.				
7.	Pathway curriculum includes appropriate state/national standards and/or industry skills standards. Identify standards used:				
8.	Links with a web-based guidance delivery system such as Montana Career Information System (MCIS). If using something other than MCIS, please indicate:				
High School Principal's Signature:		Date:			
High School CTE Teacher's Signature:		Date:			
High School Counselor's Signature:		Date:			
Please submit this Approval Form with the Big Sky Pathway Proposal to the Big Sky Pathway Coordinator at the College identified above.					
College Chief Academic Officer's Signature:		Date:			
College Lead Faculty Member's Signature:		Date:			
Please submit this Approval Form with the Big Sky Pathway Proposal to OPI, Career and Technical Education, P. O. Box 202501, Helena, MT 59620-2501.					
OPI Approval:		Date of Approval:			
OCHE Approval:		Date of Approval:			